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(71) Applicant: **Smiths Industries Public Limited  
Company**  
**London, NW11 8DS (GB)**

(72) Inventor: **Pagan, Eric**  
**Hythe, Kent CT21 6DN (GB)**

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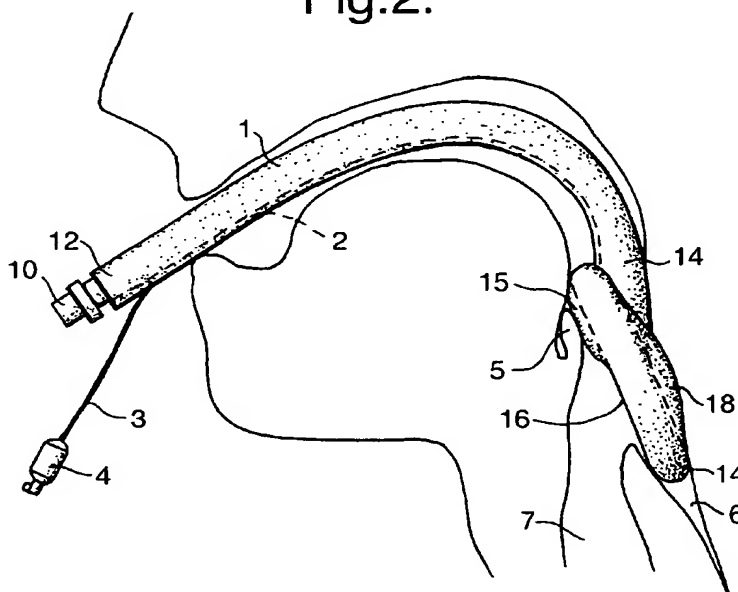
(74) Representative: **Flint, Jonathan McNeill et al**  
**765 Finchley Road**  
**London NW11 8DS (GB)**

(54) **Laryngeal mask assemblies**

(57) A laryngeal mask assembly has an inflatable cuff 13 mounted at the patient end 14 of a tube 1. The cuff 13 has a region 15 on its anterior surface 16 and a region 18 on its posterior surface 17 that expand preferentially when gas pressure is increased. The cuff 13 is inflated for insertion at low pressure such that the cuff

takes one shape and is then further inflated when positioned correctly such that the region 15 on the anterior surface 16 expands and engages the epiglottis 5 and such that the region 18 on the posterior surface 17 expands and engages the adjacent tissue, pushing the anterior surface 16 forwardly.

**Fig.2.**





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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 98 30 8846

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| Place of search<br>THE HAGUE  |   | Date of completion of the search<br>8 November 1999 | Examiner<br>Zeinstra, H                      |
| <p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone<br/>Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category<br/>A : technological background<br/>O : non-written disclosure<br/>P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention<br/>E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date<br/>D : document cited in the application<br/>L : document cited for other reasons<br/>&amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p> |   |   |  |

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